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New Seminary Dean Named

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New Seminary dean named

A new dean has been named at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University. Jiří Moskala, who has served at the Seminary since 1996, accepted the position most recently held by Denis Fortin. Moskala's appointment is effective July 1. In October 2012, Fortin announced his desire to step away from administration in order to return to full-time teaching in the Department of Theology & Christian Philosophy at the Seminary, beginning fall 2013.

"We narrowed it down to five candidates. When the final candidate review was done, it felt like the Lord was leading because there was a definite consensus that emerged on one candidate: Jiří Moskala," says Ben Schoun, chair of the Andrews University Board of Trustees and a general vice president for the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. "Dr. Moskala is a fine academic scholar and very loyal to the church. I don't know anyone who can question his commitment to the mission and values that we stand for."

Moskala presently serves as professor of Old Testament exegesis and theology and chair of the Department of Old Testament at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary. Moskala says of his new appointment, "My vision for the Theological Seminary is to be the light for the world and the theological resource for the church. We are here to serve the worldwide church in various capacities, to prepare future church leaders to work and deal with different challenges in order to proclaim the eternal Gospel with conviction, urgency and passion, make a difference for good, and prepare people for the soon second coming of Jesus."

The Seminary dean is a member of the General Conference Executive Committee, the International Board of Education, and the Board of Ministerial & Theological Education, to name a few.



Jiří Moskala has been a member of the Seminary faculty since 1996.

Additionally, the dean of the Seminary works closely with leadership from both the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists and the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

Schoun says, "The Seminary at Andrews University is like a wonderful think-tank for the Adventist church. For those of us in church leadership who are out encouraging the work on the ground to go forward, it's nice to get the counsel of the thinkers who are here at the Seminary. It's a wonderful resource to be able to call upon in these various kinds of church issues."

Born in Cesky Tesin, Czech Republic, Moskala received a Master of Theology in 1979 and a Doctor of Theology in 1990, all from the Comenius Faculty of Protestant Theology (now Protestant Theological Faculty of Charles University), Czech Republic. In 1998, he completed his Doctor of Philosophy from Andrews University.

Moskala began his ministry as a pastor for the Czecho-Slovakian Union, serving in this capacity until 1989. When the Communist regime fell after the Velvet Revolution, he established and served as the first principal of the Theological Seminary in Prague for training pastors; he also served in various other capacities including director of the Life and

Health Society, Education Department and Health Department for the Czecho-Slovakian Union. Moskala has served as a speaker for many Bible conferences and theological symposia in all 13 divisions of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and has lectured at Adventist universities and colleges around the world.

Moskala and his wife, Eva Moskala, have five grown children and three grandchildren. "This is a great honor for the confidence expressed in me, but it also holds a sense of immense responsibility. I feel like Moses in front of the Burning Bush. One of the Bible verses which speaks to me in this situation is Proverbs 16:9: *In his heart a man plans his course, but the Lord determines his steps.* But I trust God, because when He calls one to do something, He also provides strength, wisdom, guidance, and constant help."

New MPH program in Department of Public Health & Wellness

The Department of Public Health and Wellness, formerly known as the Department of Nutrition & Wellness, has received approval to offer a Master of Public Health (MPH) in Nutrition & Wellness. The Board of Trustees approved both the Department name change and new degree during their 2013 spring meeting.

This new program is the first and only online MPH program in Nutrition & Wellness offered in the country. It will prepare health professionals for service in the church and community by building knowledge and skills necessary to enhance the health of human populations and promote a healthy lifestyle through personal and community efforts. The program will be offered online at 50 percent tuition discount. For more information visit <http://www.andrews.edu/shp/publichealth>.

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